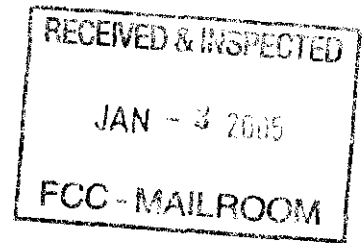


Before the  
**FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION**  
Washington, D.C. 20554



DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

In the Matter of )

)  
)  
Petition of Mid-Rivers Telephone Cooperative, )  
Inc. for Order Declaring it to be an Incumbent )  
Local Exchange Carrier in Terry, Montana )  
Pursuant to Section 251(h)(2) )

WC Docket No. 02-78

**PRAIRIE COUNTY, MONTANA**  
**INITIAL COMMENTS**

PRAIRIE COUNTY, MONTANA

Ann Marie Davis, Chair  
Todd Devlin, Commissioner  
Bill Leach, Commissioner  
Lisa Kimmet, Clerk & Recorder

P.O. Box 125  
County Courthouse  
Terry, MT 59349  
(406) 635-5575

December 21, 2004

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*Ann Marie Davis, Chairperson Todd Devlin, Member Bill Leach, Member*  
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
P.O. Box 125, Terry, MT 59349-0125  
Phone 406-635-5575 Fax 406-635-5576  
clerkrecorder@co.prairie.mt.us

PRAIRIE COUNTY RESOLUTION NO. 05-5

**WHEREAS**, Mid-Rivers Telephone Cooperative initiated a competitive telecommunications service in Terry in 1997, and;

**WHEREAS**, Mid-Rivers' service has provided significant benefits to the citizens of Terry and Prairie County by making available reliable, technologically advanced telecommunications capability to residents and business in the town, and;

**WHEREAS**, in February, 2002 Mid-Rivers petitioned the Federal Communications Commission to declare it an Incumbent Local Exchange Carrier pursuant to the federal Communications Act, which status would enable Mid-Rivers to better serve the citizens of Terry and Prairie County, and;

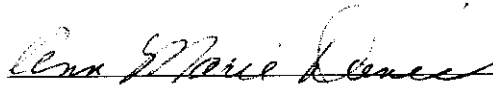
**WHEREAS**, the FCC has requested comments from interested parties on Mid-Rivers' request;

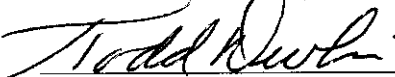
**NOW, THEREFORE, LET IT BE RESOLVED**, that Prairie County, through its duly elected Commission, hereby proclaims its support for Mid-Rivers' request to be declared an Incumbent Local Exchange Carrier, and authorizes a copy of this resolution be filed in the FCC proceeding, and;

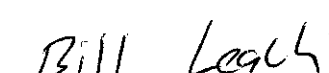
**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that Prairie County urges the FCC to act expeditiously on the Mid-Rivers request which has been pending for almost three years.

Adopted this 20<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2004.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

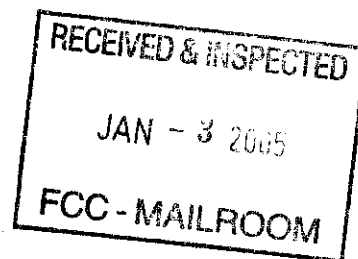
  
Ann Marie Davis, Chair

  
Todd Devlin

  
Bill Leach



*Ann Marie Davis, Chairperson Todd Devlin, Member Bill Leach, Member*  
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
P.O. Box 125, Terry, MT 59349-0125  
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December 21, 2004

Marlene H. Dortch  
Office of the Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, SW  
Washington, DC 20554

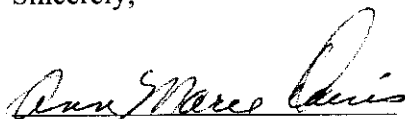
Ms. Dortch:

**RE: PETITION OF MID-RIVERS TELEPHONE COOPERATIVE, INC. FOR ORDER  
DECLARING IT TO BE AN INCUMBENT LOCAL EXCHANGE CARRIER IN  
TERRY, MONTANA PURSUANT TO SECTION 251(h)(2),  
WC DOCKET NO. 02-78**

Enclosed please find a Resolution of support for Mid-Rivers' petition to be declared an Incumbent Local Exchange Carrier in Terry, Montana, from the Prairie County Commissioners. Terry is the county seat of Prairie County.

Since Mid-Rivers began providing competitive telecommunications services in Terry in 1997, they have provided our local government, school, businesses, and residents with advanced telecommunications services that were not previously available. They also brought competition to this small rural town of 600 residents, giving us a choice of service providers and keeping prices for services at a reasonable level. With the enclosed Resolution, Prairie County supports the petition of Mid-Rivers and urges the FCC to act expeditiously on this request.

Sincerely,

  
Ann Marie Davis, Chair

  
Todd Devlin, Commissioner

  
Bill Leach, Commissioner

